



# THE DAILY BEAT

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## MONTANA TRIBAL NEWS:



*Showing support for the Museum of the Plains Indian and the Pikuni Gift Shop were Governor Brian Schweitzer, Smokey Doore, Earl Old Person and Gary Schildt.  
Photo by John McGill*

### GOVERNOR SCHWEITZER VISITS THE MUSEUM OF THE PLAINS INDIAN

By JOHN MCGILL, Glacier Reporter

It was the first stop of three planned for early Friday, July 13, in Browning as Governor Brian Schweitzer started things off by visiting the Museum of the Plains Indian. Long on the fiscal chopping block of the Bush Administration, the Museum has struggled the last several years to secure its meager federal funding and prevent its collection from being shipped to the Smithsonian Institution in Washington DC. Most recently, the Museum was notified that it would receive its funding for this fiscal year.

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### BIG SKY VAUDEVILLE TOUR TO VISIT ON BROWNING JULY 25

The Big Sky Vaudeville Tour comes to Browning High School on Wednesday, July 25, with an Educational Circus and Traveling Vaudeville Show, presented by the New Old Time Chautauqua. This celebration of music, juggling, trapeze, acrobatics and comedy is a free event for the Browning community. With performances and activities for all ages, the event promises to be fun for the whole family.

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### BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION ACCREDITS TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM AT SALISH KOOTENAI COLLEGE

HELENA – The Board of Public Education has awarded initial accreditation to the elementary education teacher preparation program at the Salish Kootenai College (SKC) in Pablo, Montana. The SKC is the only tribal college in Montana to offer a state accredited teacher preparation program.

The accredited program has developed over a ten year period and evolved from a multi-year partnership with the teacher preparation program at the University of Montana-Western.

Patty Myers, Chair of the Board, hailed the accreditation of the SKC program as a significant achievement that will provide long-term benefits to the children in Montana and help to increase the number of American Indian teachers in our schools.

The state conducted an on-site review of the SKC Teacher Education program on April 10 to 12, 2007. The review team found that all of the standards, as established by the Board of Public Education, were met. The state will conduct a follow-up visit in 2009 to review the college's assessment system.

Steve Meloy, Executive Secretary, BPE, stated, "Having an accredited teacher preparation program at a tribal college is a major accomplishment for the faculty and administration of SKC. The Board is pleased with SKC's promise of increasing the numbers of well qualified American Indian teachers in our Montana schools."